DOCKET NO.: ISIS-4803 PATENT

Application No.: 09/973,981

Office Action Dated: February 4, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of the amendment, claims 8-11, 32, 33, 35, 40, 42, 63-67, 72, 79-81, 88-90, 93,

104-106, 110-117 will be pending. Claim 42 has been amended to depend from a pending claim.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claims 112-114 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being

indefinite for disclosing that X_6 and X_9 moieties can be hydrogen. Applicants direct the

Examiner's attention to the last line of the definition for X_6 and X_9 , which states that X_6 and/or

X₉ is not hydrogen, in the respective claims. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and

withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 42 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being

indefinite for depending from a canceled claim. The foregoing amendment renders moot this

rejection. Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection.

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Conclusion

The foregoing claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowability. Should there be any remaining issues prior to allowance, the undersigned invites the Examiner to contact her at the number below.

Date: February 27, 2004

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